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Summary

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Feature Articles

NEW THIS MONTH - Beefing up our economy: Meat production in South Australia

Historically beef has accounted for the largest share of meat production in SA. However, since the mid 1990s increases in lamb and pig meat production has changed the composition of total red meat production in the state.



Demography

Includes: **Estimated resident population, Components of population change**

South Australia's population increased by 21,200 during the year ending 31 December 2009.



Labour Force

Includes: **Contents, Employed persons, Unemployment, Participation rate**

South Australia's trend unemployment rate 5.3% in July 2010.



Incomes

Includes: **Average weekly earnings**

Females working full-time in South Australia earn 14.3% less than male counterparts, on average, in May 2010.



State Accounts

Includes: **State accounts, Household final consumption expenditure (HFCE)**

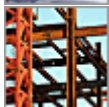
'Purchase of vehicles' main contributor to growth in SA's Household final consumption expenditure in March quarter 2010.



Consumption

Includes: **Retail trade, New motor vehicle sales**

Retail sales in SA fall 1.0% in June 2010.



Investment

Includes: **Private new capital expenditure, Mineral and petroleum exploration expenditure**

Expenditure on mineral and petroleum exploration in SA falls to new low in March quarter 2010.



Construction

Includes: **Building approvals, Construction work done**

Number of dwelling units approved in SA falls in June 2010 for the first time in eleven months.



Price Indexes

Includes: **Contents, Consumer price index, Wage price index, House price index**

SA's wage price index increased 0.7% compared to 0.6% nationally in the June quarter 2010.



Housing Finance

Includes: **Housing finance commitments**

Average loan size for first home buyers in SA falls 3.8% in June 2010.



International Merchandise Trade

Includes: **Exports and Imports**

South Australian exports for June 2010 up 32% over the same time in the previous year.



Water

Includes: **Rainfall, Reservoir levels**

Total water storage in Adelaide's reservoirs at 56% of capacity at the end of July 2010.

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September 2010
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Release Date

28 September 2010
26 October 2010
30 November 2010
21 December 2010
25 January 2011

WHAT'S NEW THIS MONTH

This month's **SA Stats** includes a feature article that looks at meat production in South Australia. Australia is among the world's largest producers of red meat and is the second largest exporter of both beef and sheep meat behind Brazil and New Zealand respectively. (Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics (ABARE) 2009a; 2009b). Whilst South Australia is not one of the big players on the national or international stage, meat production makes an important contribution to the state economy. Total meat production (including poultry) in the year ending 30 June 2009 was estimated at \$1,018.2m which represented 23.1% of the gross value of agricultural production in South Australia (\$4,407.5m).

Using data from a variety of sources within the suite of ABS Agricultural publications, this article presents an overview of red meat production in South Australia over the last three decades. An analysis of the State's livestock and slaughtering numbers will be followed by discussion of the volume and composition of red meat production. The geographic location of South Australia's meat producers and the contributions these regions make to the respective livestock groups will conclude the article.

Topics which have been updated with new data in this month's issue of **SA Stats** include: Construction; Consumption; Housing Finance; Incomes; International Merchandise Trade; Labour Force; Price Indexes; and Water.

INQUIRIES

For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070 or James Inglis on Adelaide (08) 8237 7405, or email sa.statistics@abs.gov.au.

Feature Articles



FEATURE ARTICLES

2010

Aug 2010	Beefing up our economy: Meat production in South Australia
Jul 2010	Children's Use of the Internet and Mobile Phones in South Australia
Jun 2010	International Students and the VET sector in South Australia
May 2010	Interstate Departures from South Australia
Apr 2010	Engineering Construction in South Australia
Mar 2010	Burial and cremation trends in South Australia
Feb 2010	The new Australian Statistical Geography Standard
Jan 2010	Houses in South Australia: The cost of building a dream

2009

Dec 2009	International Students in South Australia
Nov 2009	Perceptions of Crime and Safety in South Australia
Oct 2009	Who's Not in the Labour Force?
Sep 2009	One parent families with dependent children in South Australia
Aug 2009	Heating and Cooling
Jul 2009	What are South Australians Studying?
Jun 2009	Water Efficiency in South Australia's Vineyards
May 2009	Journey to Work in the City of Adelaide
Apr 2009	Housing Finance - First Home Buyers and Other Borrowers
Feb 2009	Recent Increases in South Australia's Fertility
Jan 2009	South Australian Household Final Consumption Expenditure

2008

Dec 2008	Energy Consumption in South Australia
Nov 2008	Adelaide's Population Turnover
Oct 2008	Contributors to Adelaide's Price Rises
Sep 2008	<u>Adelaide's Suburbs of Advantage and Disadvantage</u>
Aug 2008	South Australia's Agriculture Industry
July 2008	<u>New Dwelling Approvals in South Australia</u>
May 2008	<u>Literacy of South Australians</u>
April 2008	<u>South Australia's Migrant Population</u>
	<u>South Australia's Ageing Population and the Labour Force</u>
Feb 2008	<u>South Australia's Mining Industry</u>
	<u>Water Supply in South Australia</u>
Jan 2008	<u>Labour Force Underutilisation and the Underemployed in South Australia</u>
	<u>Water Use in Agriculture - A South Australian Perspective</u>

2007

Nov 2007	<u>Sports Attendance in South Australia</u>
	<u>Recorded Crime - Victims, South Australia, 2006</u>
Oct 2007	<u>Attendance at Cultural Venues and Events by South Australians</u>
Aug 2007	<u>Children's Participation in Cultural and Leisure Activities - South Australia, 2006</u>
Jul 2007	<u>South Australia's big picture: Census highlights the changes in South Australian society</u>
	<u>Participation in Sports and Physical Recreation Activities - South Australia</u>
May 2007	<u>Health of South Australians - Body Mass</u>
	<u>Household Use of the Internet in South Australia</u>
Apr 2007	<u>Employment in the Retail Trade Industry in South Australia</u>
	<u>River Murray - South Australia</u>

Mar 2007	<u>Household Waste Management in South Australia</u>
Feb 2007	<u>Births - South Australia</u>
Jan 2007	<u>Gross Domestic Product and Gross State Product</u>
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Dec 2006	<u>Rainfall in South Australia, South Australian Reservoirs, Water Consumption</u>
Nov 2006	<u>Health of South Australians - Health related actions</u>
Oct 2006	<u>National Regional Profile - New Release, New Features</u>
Sep 2006	<u>Fuel Production and Consumption, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Land Use Change and Forestry</u>
Aug 2006	<u>Health of South Australians - Health Risk Behaviours</u> <u>The South Australian Grape Industry</u>
Jul 2006	<u>Use of IT By Australian Businesses</u> <u>Household use of the Internet in South Australia</u>
May 2006	<u>Health of South Australians - Health Status</u>
Apr 2006	<u>International Trade in Services</u> <u>International Students in South Australia</u>
Feb 2006	<u>Labour Force and Other Characteristics of Migrants in South Australia</u>
Jan 2006	<u>Survey of work in selected Culture & Leisure Activities</u>
2005	
Nov 2005	<u>Household Income in South Australia</u> <u>Household Expenditure in South Australia</u>
Oct 2005	<u>SA Business and Innovation</u> <u>Recent History of Population change in South Australia, 1993-94 to 2003-04</u>
Aug 2005	<u>Average Weekly Earnings</u> <u>Transition from School</u>

Demography



DEMOGRAPHY

ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION

The estimated resident population (ERP) for South Australia was 1,633,900 at 31 December 2009, an increase of about 21,200 persons (1.3%) since 31 December 2008. Nationally, the ERP was 22,155,400 at 31 December 2009, an increase of about 432,600 persons (2.0%) since 31 December 2008.

ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION, Preliminary data

	Population at end December quarter 2009 '000	Change over previous year '000	Change over previous year %
New South Wales	7 191.5	115.8	1.6
Victoria	5 496.4	114.6	2.1
Queensland	4 473.0	106.6	2.4
South Australia	1 633.9	21.2	1.3
Western Australia	2 270.3	58.7	2.7
Tasmania	505.4	4.4	0.9

Northern Territory	227.7	4.9	2.2
Australian Capital Territory	354.9	6.4	1.8
Australia(a)	22 155.4	432.6	2.0

(a) Includes Other Territories comprising Jervis Bay Territory, Christmas Island and the Cocos (Keeling) Islands.
Source: Australian Demographic Statistics (cat. no. 3101.0).

In 2008-09, the South Australian Statistical Division (SD) with the largest percentage increase in ERP was Outer Adelaide (1.9%) followed by Yorke and Lower North (1.4%).

Estimated Resident Population(a), By Statistical Division - South Australia

	2008		2009	
	Population at 30 June '000	Change over previous year %	Population at 30 June '000	Change over previous year %
Adelaide	1 172.6	1.2	1 187.5	1.3
Outer Adelaide	134.1	2.0	136.6	1.9
Yorke and Lower North	46.4	1.1	47.1	1.4
Murray Lands	70.2	0.5	70.4	0.4
South East	65.4	0.8	66.0	0.8
Eyre	35.2	0.6	35.6	1.0
Northern	80.1	0.7	80.5	0.5
South Australia	1 604.0	1.1	1 623.6	1.2

(a) Estimates for 2008 are revised to align with new 2008 state and territory totals and estimates for 2009 are preliminary.

Source: Regional Population Growth, Australia 2008-09 (cat. no. 3218.0)

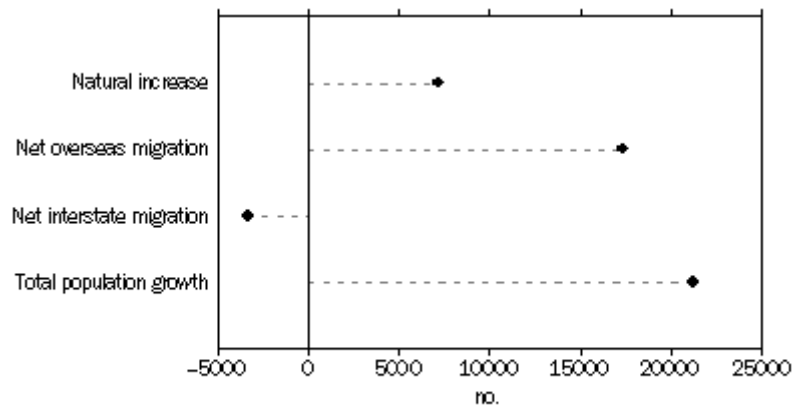
[Map of South Australia's Statistical Divisions \(PDF 3.083MB\)](#)

COMPONENTS OF POPULATION CHANGE

For the year ended 31 December 2009, South Australia recorded a natural increase (i.e. the net of births and deaths) of 7,196 persons. Net overseas migration provided a gain of 17,349 persons in the same period while net interstate migration realised a loss of 3,317 persons.

For the year ended 31 December 2009, Australia recorded a natural increase in population of 154,899 persons; net overseas migration resulted in a gain of 277,710 people.

POPULATION GROWTH, South Australia - Year ended December 2009



Source: Australian Demographic Statistics (cat. no. 3101.0)

Labour Force



LABOUR FORCE

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[Employed persons](#)

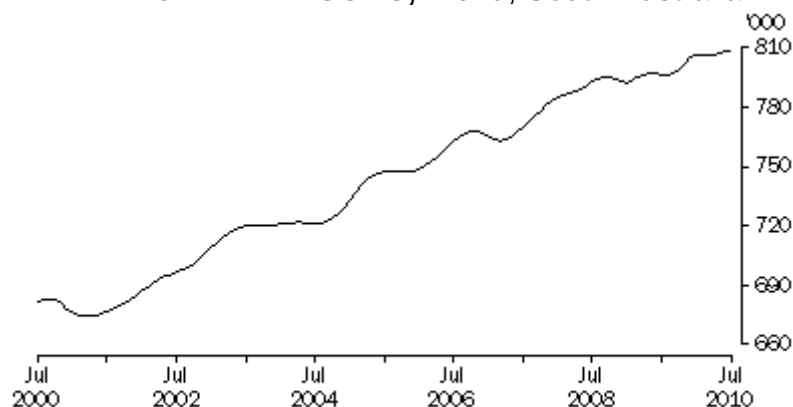
[Unemployment](#)

[Participation rate](#)

EMPLOYED PERSONS

In trend terms, the total number of persons employed in South Australia has increased slightly to be 807,900 persons in July 2010. This represents an increase of 1.5% over the estimate recorded in July 2009 (796,300) with most of the growth occurring between August and December 2009. Nationally a total of 11,220,600 persons were employed in July 2010; an increase of 2.7% over the corresponding month of the previous year.

EMPLOYED PERSONS, Trend, South Australia

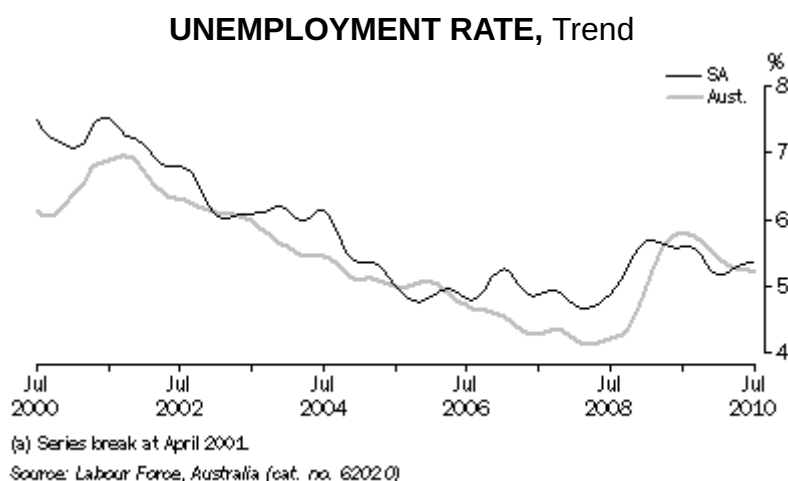


Source: Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0)

The number of males employed full-time in South Australia increased slightly to be 359,600 (in trend terms) in July 2010. Looking at the composition of all male employees, those working full-time accounted for 82.6% of the male workforce, up from 81.6% in July 2009. The number of females employed full-time increased for the eighth consecutive month to be 186,900 in July 2010; 1.3% higher than the corresponding month of the previous year. At that time full-time female employees accounted for 49.5% and by July 2010 this proportion had risen to 50.1%.

UNEMPLOYMENT

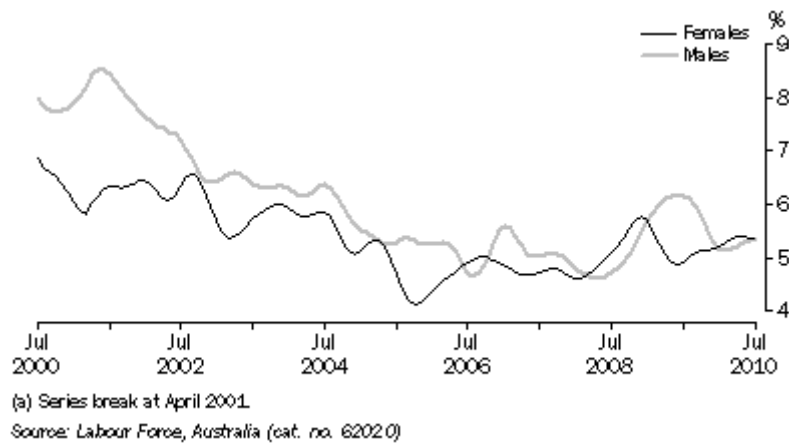
After falling from 5.6% to 5.2% between August and December 2009, South Australia's unemployment rate has been on an upward trend in 2010. The July estimate of 5.3% sees the series remain above the national rate of unemployment for the fourth consecutive month. Australia's unemployment rate (in trend terms) has fallen from 5.8% in July 2009 to 5.2% in July 2010.



Having fallen from 6.2% in June 2009, the trend unemployment rate for South Australian males held steady at 5.1% in January and February 2010 before rising to be 5.3% in July. From a low of 4.9% in mid 2009, the trend unemployment rate for South Australian females has also been on the rise, although it has remained relatively steady over the last few months and was 5.4% in July 2010.

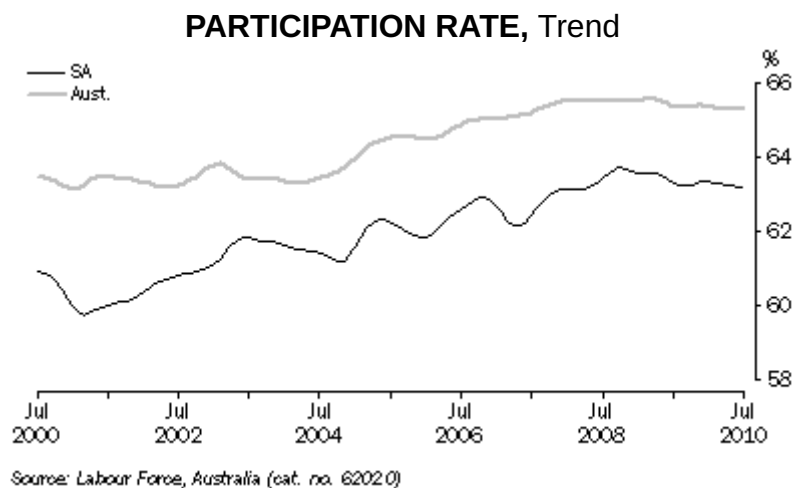
Nationally, the trend unemployment rates for males and females in July 2010 held steady at 5.1% and 5.3% respectively.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE, Trend, South Australia



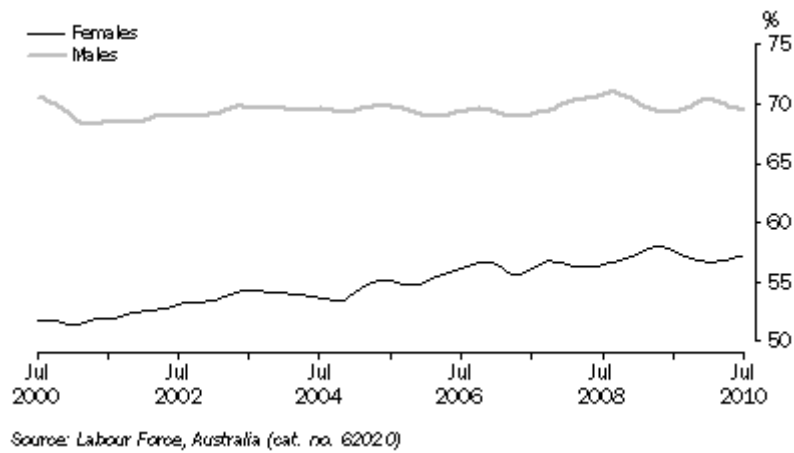
PARTICIPATION RATE

The trend estimate of the participation rate for South Australia has shown very little movement over recent months and was 63.2% in July 2010. Similarly, Australia's trend participation rate has also remained relatively stable over the same period and was 65.3% in July.



In South Australia, the participation rate for males has fallen slightly over the last six months to be 69.5% in July 2010. In comparison, the Australian participation rate for males remained steady at 72.3% in July 2010, showing little change for almost the last year and a half. From a peak of 58.0% in April and May 2009, the participation rate for South Australian females fell to 56.7% in early 2010, but has risen gradually since then to be 57.2% in July. The Australian female participation rate remained steady at 58.6% in July 2010.

PARTICIPATION RATE, Trend, South Australia



Incomes



INCOMES

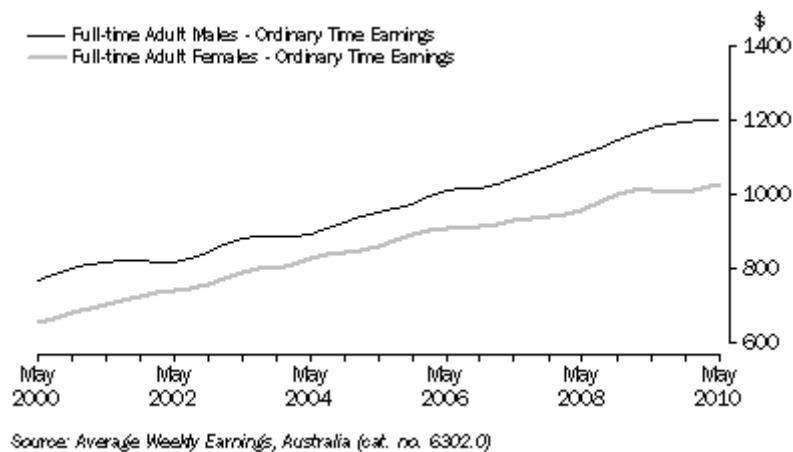
AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS

The trend estimate of average weekly (ordinary time) earnings for full-time adult persons in South Australia increased by 2.0% to \$1,139.90 in the 12 months to May 2010. Nationally, the trend estimate of average weekly (ordinary time) earnings increased 5.6% (up to \$1,256.30).

In the 12 months to May 2010, average weekly full-time earnings in South Australia for males increased by 1.8% to \$1,200.40. Whilst the rate of growth in South Australian male earnings has slowed it has remained positive. By contrast, the series for female earnings has shown more variability in recent times. After falls in the May and August quarters of 2009, female earnings have been increasing with the estimate for May 2010 (\$1028.20) 1.6% higher than that recorded in May 2009 (\$1012.40). On average, South Australian females working full-time earn 14.3% less than their male counterparts.

Nationally, male average weekly full-time earnings increased 5.8% to \$1,342.10 and female earnings rose 4.9% to \$1,106.40 in the year to May 2010.

FULL-TIME ORDINARY EARNINGS, South Australia: Trend



For information on the wage price index, please refer to the '[Price Indexes](#)' topic.

State Accounts



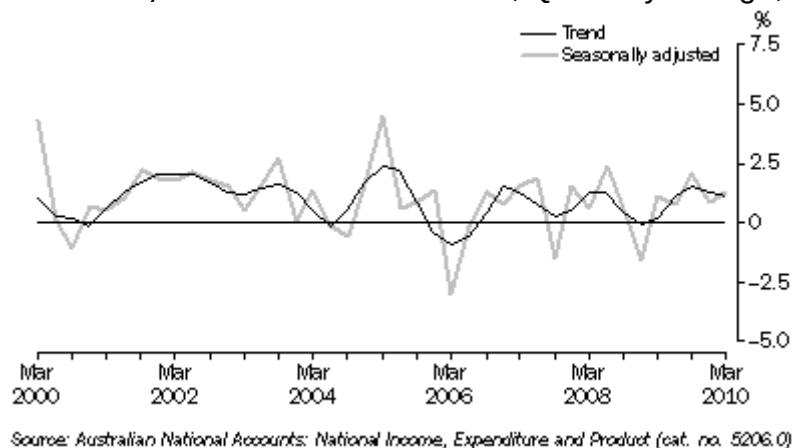
STATE ACCOUNTS

STATE ACCOUNTS

South Australia's March quarter 2010 State Final Demand in chain volume (trend) terms was \$21,010m; an increase of 1.1% from the December quarter 2009 and 5.2% over the corresponding quarter of the previous year. Australia's Domestic Final Demand grew 1.2% to \$318,713m in the March quarter 2010.

All states and territories recorded increases for the March quarter 2010. New South Wales reported the largest growth for the period (up 1.4%), while Queensland recorded the smallest (up 0.2%).

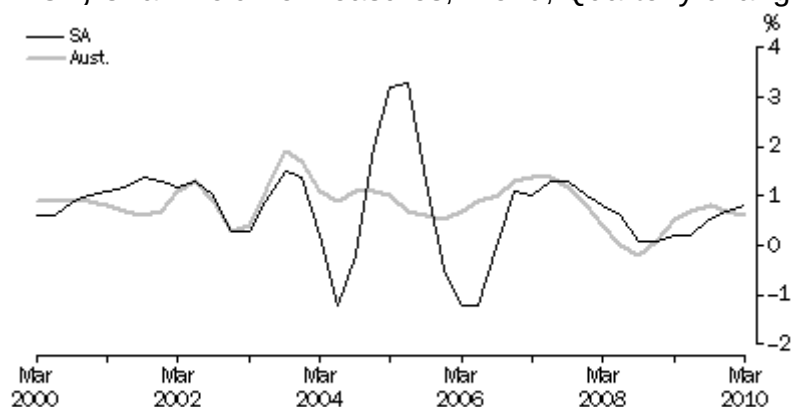
STATE FINAL DEMAND, Chain volume measures, Quarterly change, South Australia



HOUSEHOLD FINAL CONSUMPTION EXPENDITURE (HFCE)

In chain volume (trend) terms, South Australia's March quarter 2010 HFCE was \$11,880m; an increase of 0.8% over the result recorded in the December quarter 2009 and representing 7.0% of the national total (\$170,025m). The value of HFCE for Australia increased by 0.6% between the December quarter 2009 and March quarter 2010.

HFCE, Chain volume measures, Trend, Quarterly change

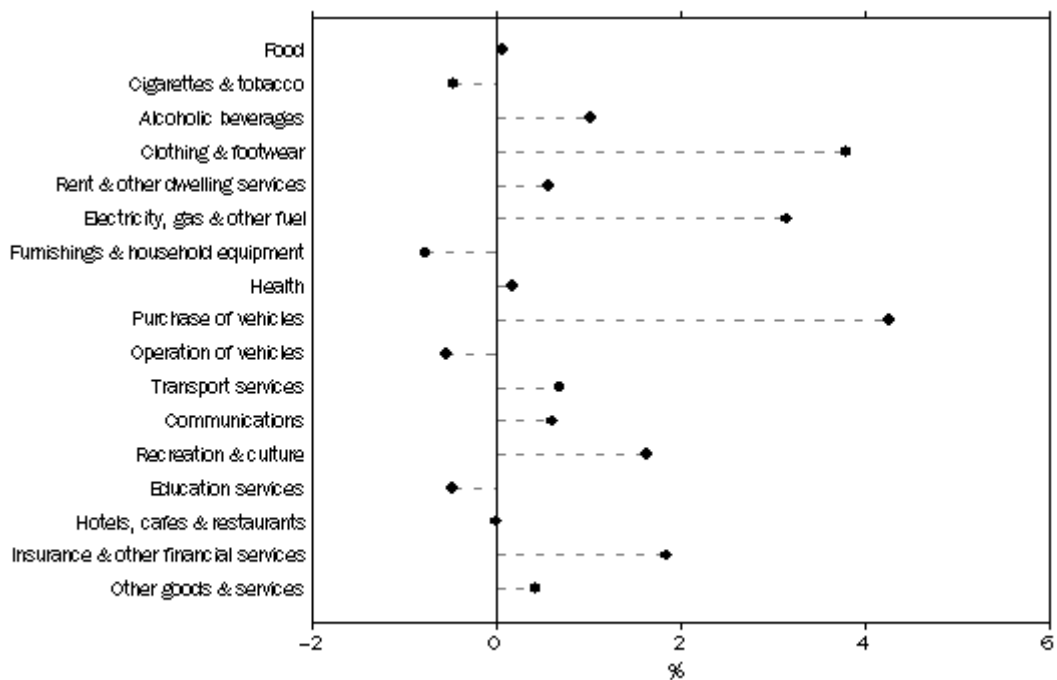


Source: Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product (cat. no. 5206.0)

The main contributors to growth in HFCE in South Australia for the March quarter 2010 were Purchase of vehicles (up 4.3% from the December quarter 2009) and Clothing and footwear (up 3.8%). Small decreases were reported against expenditure on Furnishings and household equipment (down 0.8%), Cigarettes and tobacco, Operation of vehicles, and Education services (all down 0.5%).

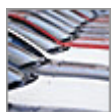
At the national level, expenditure increases were reported for most categories. The largest increases were for Purchase of vehicles (up 3.0% from the December quarter 2009), Insurance and other financial services (up 1.8%) and Transport services (up 1.0%). The largest decreases in expenditure were for Electricity, gas and other fuel and Operation of vehicles (both down 0.6%) with smaller decreases recorded for Cigarettes and tobacco (down 0.3%) and Alcoholic beverages (down 0.2%).

HFCE, Chain volume measures, Trend, Quarterly change, South Australia - March Quarter 2010



Source: Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product (cat. no. 5206.0)

Consumption

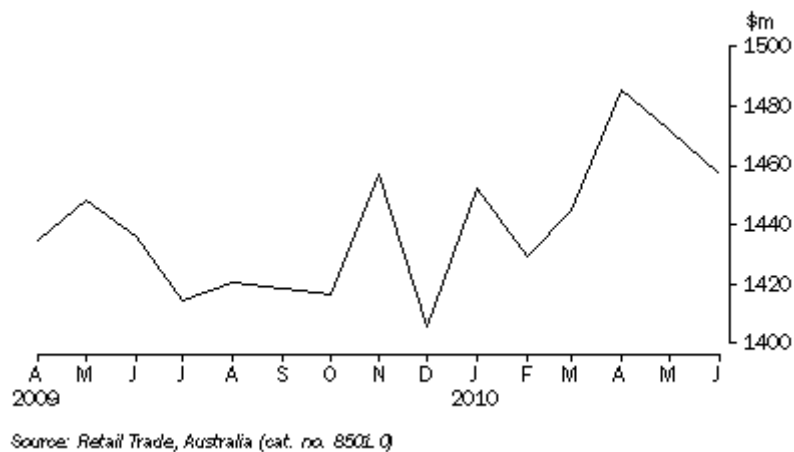


CONSUMPTION

RETAIL TRADE

The June 2010 seasonally adjusted estimate for South Australia's retail turnover was \$1,456.9m, a fall of 1.0% from the previous month (\$1,471.7m), but 1.5% above the sales recorded in June of the previous year (\$1,435.8m). Nationally retail turnover rose for the fourth consecutive month to be \$20,184.0m in June 2010. This represents an increase of 0.2% over the high recorded in the previous month and 1.9% over sales recorded in June of 2009 (\$19,803.4m). South Australia's contribution to total retail turnover in Australia fell slightly to 7.2%.

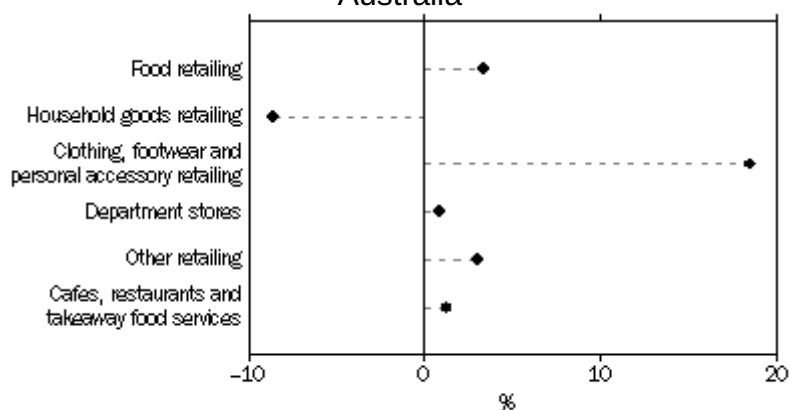
RETAIL TURNOVER, Seasonally adjusted, South Australia



Comparing June 2010 with June 2009, the South Australian industry groups with the largest percentage increases in retail turnover (in seasonally adjusted terms) were Clothing, footwear and personal accessory retailing, up 18.5% to \$109.4m and Food retailing, up 3.4% to \$591.7m.

Household goods retailing was the only South Australian industry group to record lower turnover over this period falling 8.5%.

RETAIL TURNOVER, Seasonally adjusted, Change from June 2009 to June 2010, South Australia

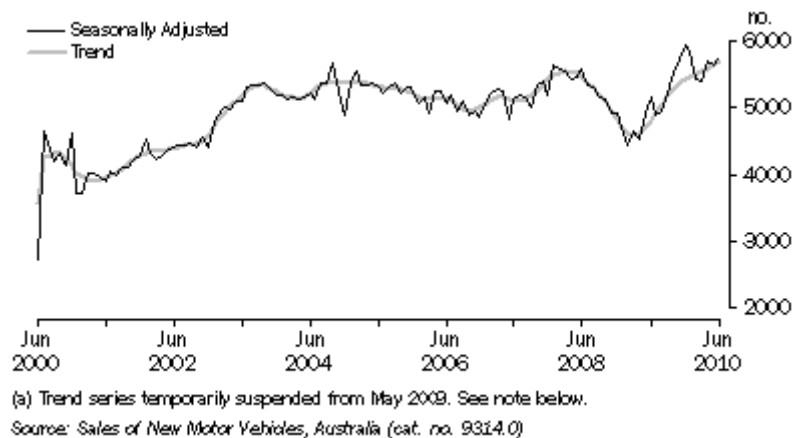


NEW MOTOR VEHICLE SALES

In June 2010, 3,257 new passenger vehicles and 5,699 new vehicles in total (in trend terms*) were sold in South Australia.

In Australia, 50,859 new passenger vehicles and 88,022 new vehicles in total (in trend terms*) were sold in June 2010.

NEW MOTOR VEHICLE SALES, South Australia



*RE-INTRODUCTION OF TREND ESTIMATES

The trend estimates have been re-introduced for all new motor vehicle sales. Unusual influences associated with the Global Financial Crisis were affecting the new motor vehicle sales series, but these effects can now be estimated with a sufficient level of accuracy. However, caution should still be used when interpreting the recent new motor vehicle sales trend estimates as they may still be affected further by unusual economic factors. For further details, please refer to paragraph 12 of the Explanatory Notes in [Sales of New Motor Vehicles, Australia, Jun 2010](#) (cat. no. 9314.0).

Investment



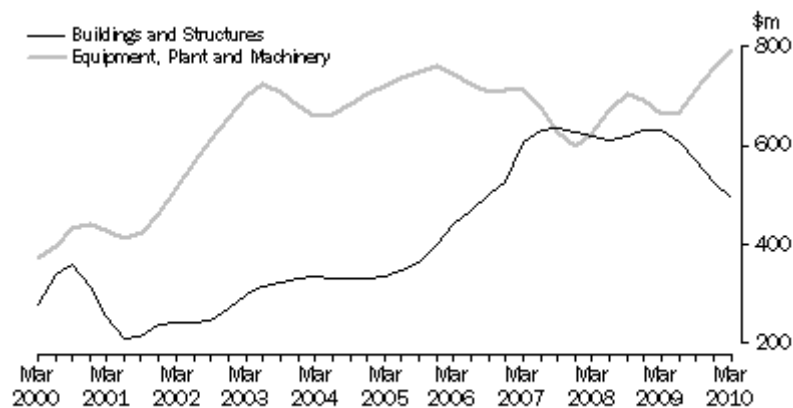
INVESTMENT

PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

Between the December quarter 2009 and March quarter 2010, the South Australian chain volume (trend) estimate of private new capital expenditure rose by 0.2% to \$1,284m. Expenditure on Equipment, plant and machinery rose \$35m to \$791m (an increase of 4.6%), whilst expenditure on Buildings and structures fell \$32m (6.1%) to \$495m.

Over the same period, private new capital expenditure for Australia rose \$528m (1.9%) to \$27,753m. Expenditure on Equipment, plant and machinery rose 2.4%, whilst expenditure on Buildings and structures rose 0.6%.

PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE, South Australia - Chain volume measures - Trend



Source: Private New Capital Expenditure and Expected Expenditure, Australia (cat. no. 5625.0)

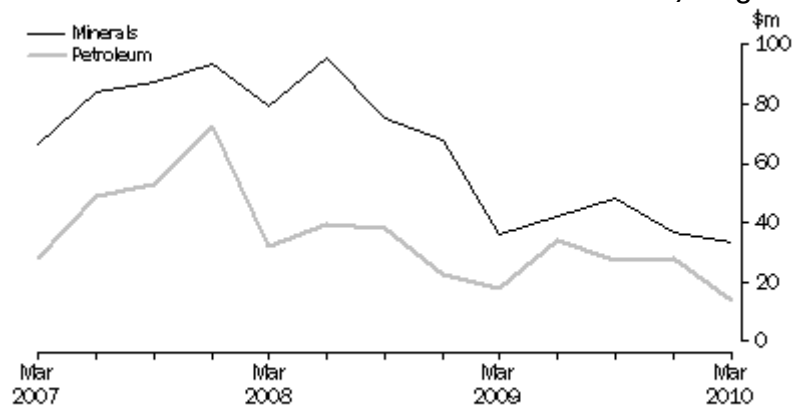
MINERAL AND PETROLEUM EXPLORATION EXPENDITURE

The value of South Australian mineral exploration expenditure (in original terms) was \$33.7m in the March quarter 2010; a decrease of 8.9% over the previous quarter and 64.6% below the peak recorded in the June quarter 2008 (\$95.2m). Australian expenditure on mineral exploration was \$459.3m in the March quarter 2010; a decrease of 20.6% from the December quarter 2009 estimate (\$578.8m).

Exploration expenditure on Copper (\$17.1m) accounted for a little over half (50.7%) of all South Australian mineral exploration expenditure in the March quarter 2010. A further \$9.9m was spent on exploration for Uranium (\$5.2m) and Iron ore (\$4.7m).

Expenditure on petroleum exploration in South Australia in the March quarter 2010 fell to a new low of \$13.7m, down 51.2% from the previous quarter. In contrast, expenditure on petroleum exploration nationally increased by 4.4% from \$827.0m to \$863.5m over the same period.

MINERAL AND PETROLEUM EXPLORATION EXPENDITURE, Original, South Australia



Source: Mineral and Petroleum Exploration, Australia (cat. no. 8412.0)

Construction



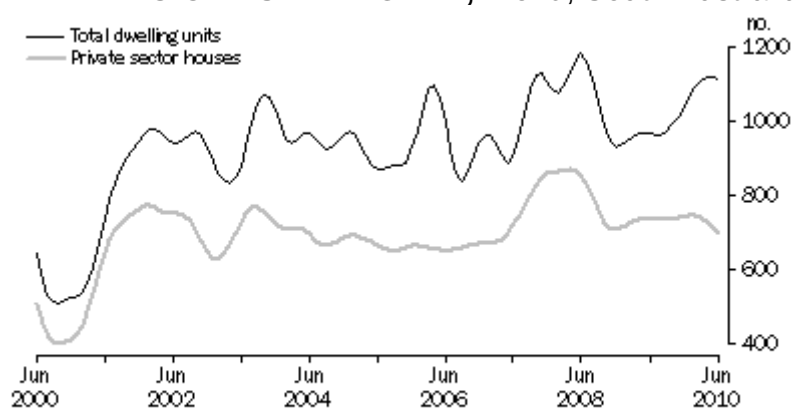
CONSTRUCTION

BUILDING APPROVALS

The number of dwelling units approved in South Australia (in trend terms) has fallen for the first time in nearly a year, with 1,115 approvals in June 2010. This represents a fall of 0.4% over the estimate for May 2010 (1,120) but is 15.8% higher than the previous low of 963 approvals in July 2009. Nationally, the number of dwelling units approved has fallen for the fourth consecutive month. The estimate of 13,845 in June 2010 is 8.5% below the peak recorded at the beginning of the year (15,125 approvals January and February 2010).

The trend estimate for the number of private sector houses approved in South Australia fell to 699 in June 2010. Private sector house approvals as a proportion of total dwelling units have fallen from a high of 76.3% in February 2009 to 62.7% in June 2010.

DWELLING UNITS APPROVED, Trend, South Australia



Source: Building Approvals, Australia (cat. no. 8731.0)

In the year to June 2010, the total number of dwelling units approved in South Australia rose 5.0% over the previous year. Decreases recorded in the South East (down 25.2%), Northern (down 8.6%) and Yorke and Lower North (down 5.9%) Statistical Divisions moderated the increase in the number of dwelling units approved in the Eyre, Outer Adelaide and Adelaide Statistical Divisions (up 26.1%, 8.9% and 7.1% respectively).

DWELLING UNITS APPROVED, by Statistical Division, Original, South Australia

	Year ended June 2009		Year ended June 2010	
	Dwelling units no.	Change over previous year %	Dwelling units no.	Change over previous year %
Adelaide	8 289	-11.6	8 876	7.1
Outer Adelaide	1 571	-5.3	1 711	8.9
Yorke and Lower North	511	-18.4	481	-5.9
Murray Lands	437	-13.1	448	2.5
South East	535	37.5	400	-25.2
Eyre	238	-29.0	300	26.1
Northern	431	-12.0	394	-8.6
South Australia	12 012	-10.2	12 610	5.0

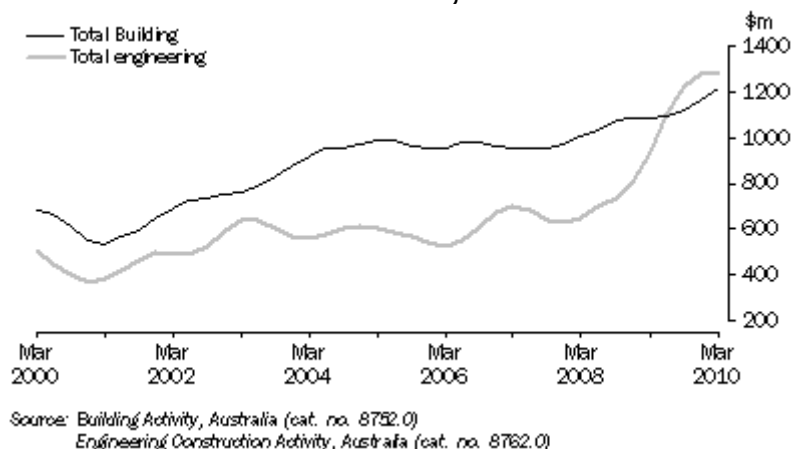
Source: Building Approvals, Australia - data available on request

CONSTRUCTION WORK DONE

In the March quarter 2010, the total value of building work done (in trend terms) in South Australia rose to \$1,221.5m, an increase of 4.4% over the December quarter 2009.

Between the December quarters 2007 and 2009, the trend estimate for the value of engineering work done rose sharply (\$628.0m to \$1,283.0m) before plateauing in the March quarter 2010 (\$1,285.0m). For the last three quarters, the value of engineering work done has exceeded the value of building work done. This upsurge in engineering construction is the focus of the feature article presented in the April 2010 issue of SA Stats.

VALUE OF CONSTRUCTION WORK DONE, Chain Volume Measures - SA: Trend



Price Indexes



PRICE INDEXES

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[Consumer price index](#)

[Wage price index](#)

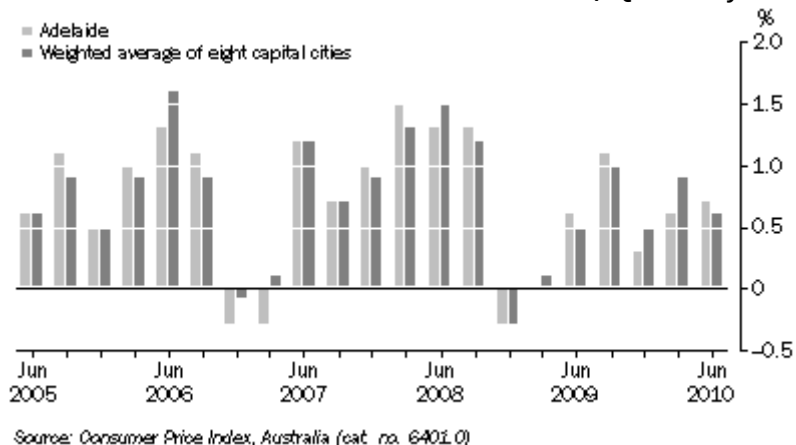
[House price index](#)

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

The all groups consumer price index (CPI) for Adelaide rose 0.7% during the June quarter 2010, while the weighted average of the eight capital cities increased by 0.6% in the same period. Adelaide's CPI increased by 2.8% in the year ending June quarter 2010, compared

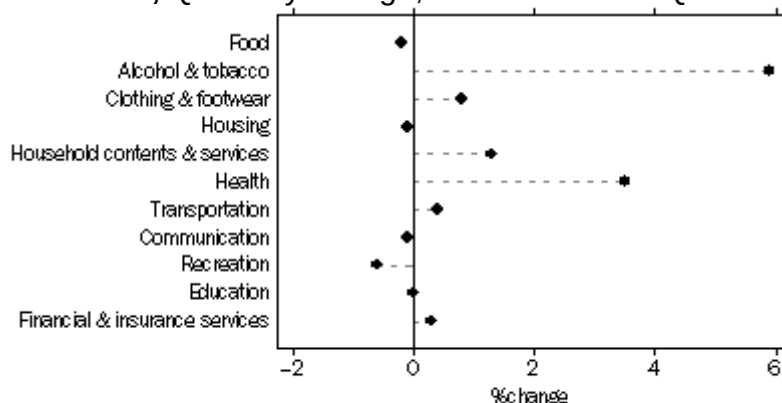
with a 3.1% rise in the weighted average of the eight capital cities.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - ALL GROUPS, Quarterly change



Adelaide's largest percentage increases in prices from the previous quarter were in the areas of Alcohol and tobacco (5.9%) and Health (3.5%). The largest decreases in prices from the previous quarter were for Recreation (0.6%) and Food (0.2%).

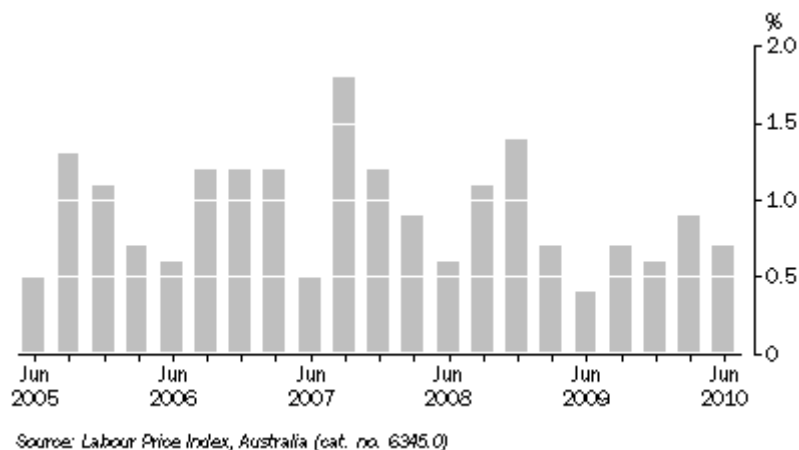
CPI GROUPS, Quarterly change, Adelaide - June Quarter 2010



WAGE PRICE INDEX

The wage price index for all employee jobs in South Australia increased by 0.7% (in original terms) between the March and June quarters 2010. This was slightly higher than the national increase of 0.6% over the same period.

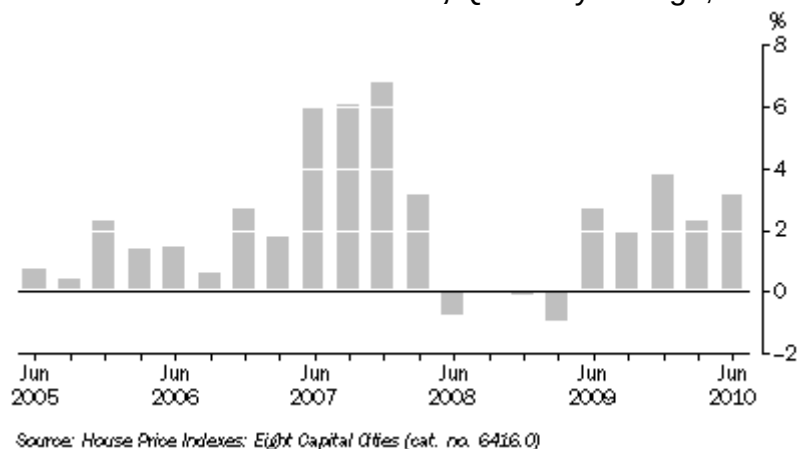
WAGE PRICE INDEX QUARTERLY CHANGES, Total hourly rates of pay excluding bonuses - Original: South Australia



HOUSE PRICE INDEX

Preliminary estimates show that, for the fifth consecutive quarter, the price index for established houses for Adelaide (in original terms) has increased, with the June quarter 2010 3.2% higher than the previous quarter. Price rises were also recorded in all other capital cities between the March and June quarter 2010 resulting in an increase in the price index for the weighted average of the eight capital cities of 3.1% over this period. Sydney (4.9%) recorded the largest increase whilst Brisbane (0.3%) and Hobart (0.1%) were the capitals with the smallest increases.

ESTABLISHED HOUSE PRICES, Quarterly change, Adelaide



In the 12 months to the June quarter 2010, preliminary estimates show the price index for established houses for Adelaide rose 11.6%, while the weighted average of the eight capital cities increased 18.4%. Melbourne (24.3%), Sydney (21.4%) and Canberra (19.6%) recorded the largest increases whilst Brisbane's increase of 8.5% was the lowest of all the capital cities.

Housing Finance



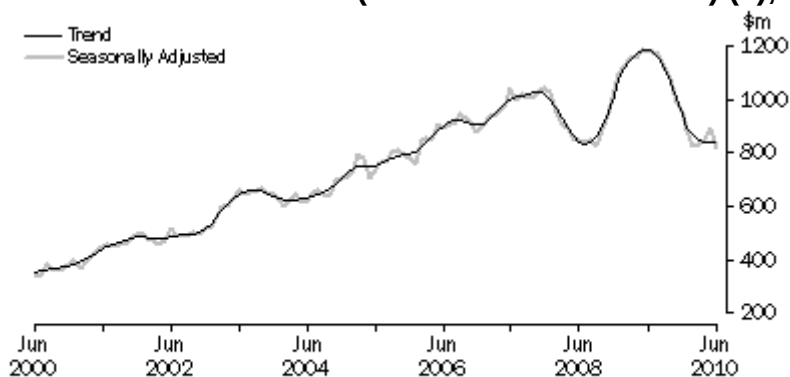
HOUSING FINANCE

HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS

The trend estimate of the total value of housing finance commitments (owner occupation) in South Australia in June 2010 was \$840m, a decrease of 0.1% from May 2010 (\$841m). The series has been declining for 12 months with the current estimate (\$840m) 29.2% lower than the peak value of housing finance commitments recorded in June 2009 (\$1,186m).

Nationally, the value of housing finance commitments for owner occupation was \$13,214m in June 2010; 0.7% lower than May 2010 and 22.9% lower than the peak recorded in June 2009 (\$17,140m).

HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS (OWNER OCCUPATION) (a), South Australia



In June 2010, the average home loan size for owner occupied dwellings in South Australia was \$221,300, a decrease of 2.5% over the previous month, and 22.4% lower than the average home loan size for Australia (\$285,300).

In June 2010, the average loan commitment for first home buyers in South Australia fell to \$236,800; a decrease of 3.8% over the May estimate. In comparison, the average loan size for non-first home buyers fell to \$218,900, a decrease of 2.3% over the same period. The average loan size for first home buyers in June 2010 is 8.2% higher than for non-first home buyers.

HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS (OWNER OCCUPATION) (a), Average loan size, Original, South Australia



For information on the house price index, please refer to the '[Price Indexes](#)' topic.

International Merchandise Trade



INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE

EXPORTS AND IMPORTS

On a recorded trade basis, the value of South Australia's exports in June 2010 was \$843m; an increase of 1.5% over May 2010 (\$830m) and 32.1% higher than the value recorded in June 2009 (\$638m).

Wine has typically been South Australia's primary export commodity over much of the past two years. However, in June 2010, wine was the third largest export commodity accounting for 12.3% of the State's exports. The metal commodities of Copper (17.0%) and Iron ore* (12.5%) were the largest contributors to South Australia's exports at this time.

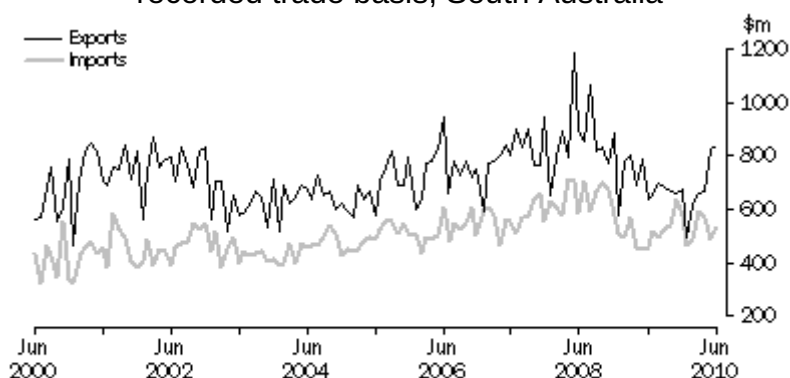
*Please refer to International Trade in Goods and Services, Australia, Jun 2010 (cat. no. 5368.0) for information relating to commodity price adjustments and the potential impact on this estimate.

The value of Australian merchandise exports for June 2010 was \$21,247m; 2.5% higher than May 2010 (\$20,729m) and 36.5% higher than the corresponding month of the previous year (\$15,570m).

The value of South Australian merchandise imports rose to \$535m in June 2010. This estimate represents an increase of 8.9% over May 2010 (\$491m) and is 16.8% higher than the value recorded in June 2009 (\$458m).

The value of Australian merchandise imports for June 2010 was \$17,911m; an increase of 3.6% from the previous month and 14.1% higher than the value recorded in June of the previous year (\$15,694m).

VALUE OF INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE EXPORTS AND IMPORTS (a), on a recorded trade basis, South Australia



(a) Exports where the final stage of production or manufacture occurs in South Australia.

Source: *International Trade in Goods and Services, Australia* (cat. no. 5368.0)

Water



WATER

RAINFALL

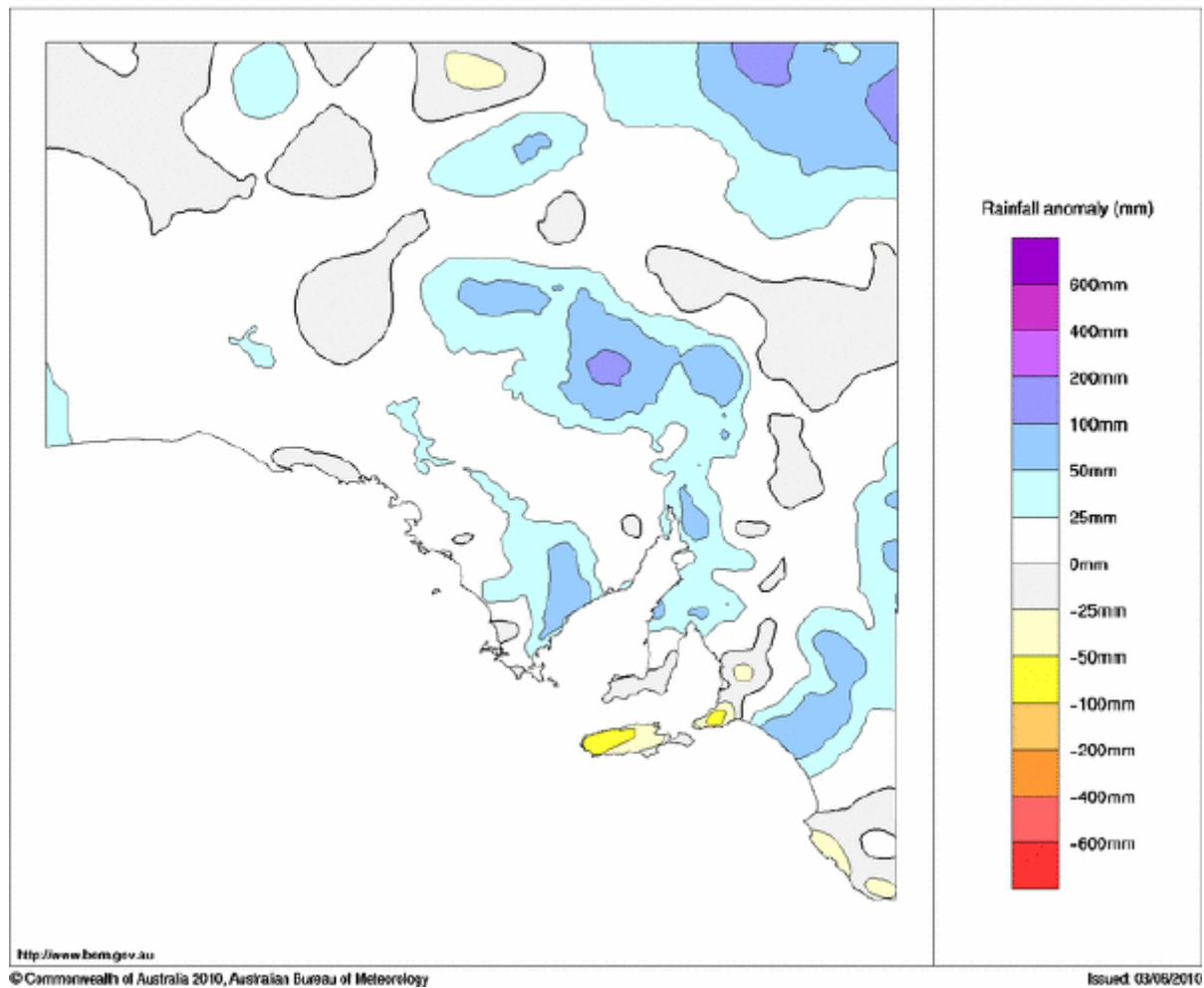
According to the Bureau of Meteorology's Seasonal Climate Summary for South Australia, Autumn 2010 produced generally warmer than average temperatures and above average rainfall across most of the state.

Much of the rainfall recorded over the season was as a result of an event in early April and in the last week of May.

Almost all pastoral districts received above average rainfall. The highest autumn rainfall in these areas was recorded in Andamooka with 177.4mm, more than three times the autumn average of 45.3mm.

Rainfall totals were generally above average over agricultural districts, though coastal locations were near average, with rainfall totals typically between 80 to 140mm.

Rainfall Anomalies

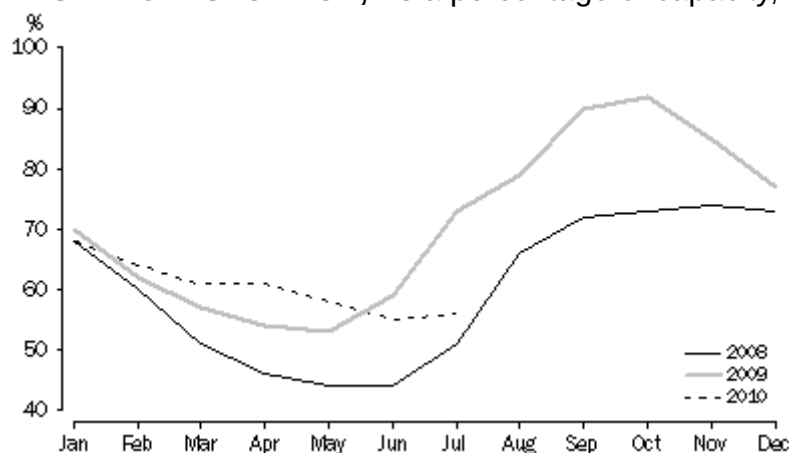


Source: 3-monthly rainfall anomalies for South Australia, Australian Bureau of Meteorology.

RESERVOIR LEVELS

The total water storage in Adelaide's reservoirs rose slightly in July 2010 to end the month at 56% of capacity. Despite this rise, reservoir levels are considerably lower than the capacity available in the corresponding period of the previous year (73% in July 2009), but higher than for the same time in 2008 (51%).

TOTAL RESERVOIR STORAGE, As a percentage of capacity, Adelaide



About this Release

SA Stats provides an overview of the South Australian population and economy. The publication is updated on a monthly basis, with most releases also featuring an article that provides a South Australian focus on economic, social and environmental issues.

Explanatory Notes are not included in SA Stats in the form found in other Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) publications. Readers are directed to the Explanatory Notes contained in related ABS publications.

Beefing up our Economy: Meat Production in South Australia (Feature Article)

FEATURE ARTICLE: BEEFING UP OUR ECONOMY: MEAT PRODUCTION IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA

INTRODUCTION

Australia is among the world's largest producers of red meat and is the second largest exporter of both beef and sheep meat behind Brazil and New Zealand respectively. (Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics (ABARE) 2009a; 2009b). Whilst South Australia is not one of the big players on the national or international stage, meat production makes an important contribution to the state economy. Total meat production (including poultry) in the year ending 30 June 2009 was estimated at \$1,018.2m which represented 23.1% of the gross value of agricultural production in South Australia (\$4,407.5m).

Cattle, sheep and pigs are the main livestock grown in South Australia. Beef has accounted for the largest proportion (volume) of red meat production in South Australia for much of the past three decades, although since 1999 this dominance has been challenged as the production of lamb and pig meat has increased. The respective strategic direction plans of the main red meat commodities each contain targets which relate to growing the value of their industries. Specific targets outlined in the '2005-2015 Beef Industry Strategy' include a 5% increase in domestic consumption; a 30% increase in processed exports; and a 40% increase in the volume of processing over the 2002-03 level by 2015. (Primary Industries and Resources South Australia (PIRSA) 2005). Quantifiable targets in the 'South Australian Sheep Industry 10 Year Strategic Plan' include expanding the volume of sheep meat production to 160mkg by 2012 and growing the value of produce to \$1.5b. (PIRSA 2004a)

Using data from a variety of sources within the suite of ABS Agricultural publications, this article presents an overview of red meat production in South Australia over the last three decades. An analysis of the State's livestock and slaughtering numbers will be followed by discussion of the volume and composition of red meat production. The geographic location of South Australia's meat producers and the contributions these regions make to the

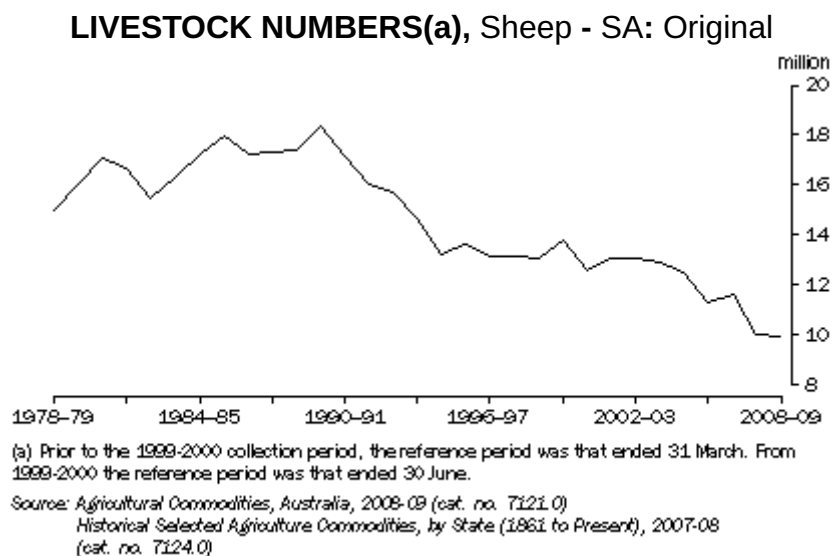
respective livestock groups will conclude the article.

LIVESTOCK NUMBERS & SLAUGHTERING

Sheep

In 1979 there were approximately 14.9 million sheep in the South Australian flock and by 1990 this number had increased to approximately 18.4 million. Over the ensuing five years, however, the size of the flock decreased markedly as a result of adverse wool prices and drought conditions. The subsequent five year period of comparative stability was followed by a decade of general decline. In addition to poor seasonal conditions, sheep, traditionally prized for their fleece, were now more valuable as a meat commodity. As a result, sheep numbers fell to approximately 10.0 million by 2009, the lowest level since 1950 (9.5 million).

South Australia accounted for 11.1% of Australia's sheep in 1979 and 13.7% in 2009 indicating that the South Australian flock has been reducing at a slower rate than in other states.

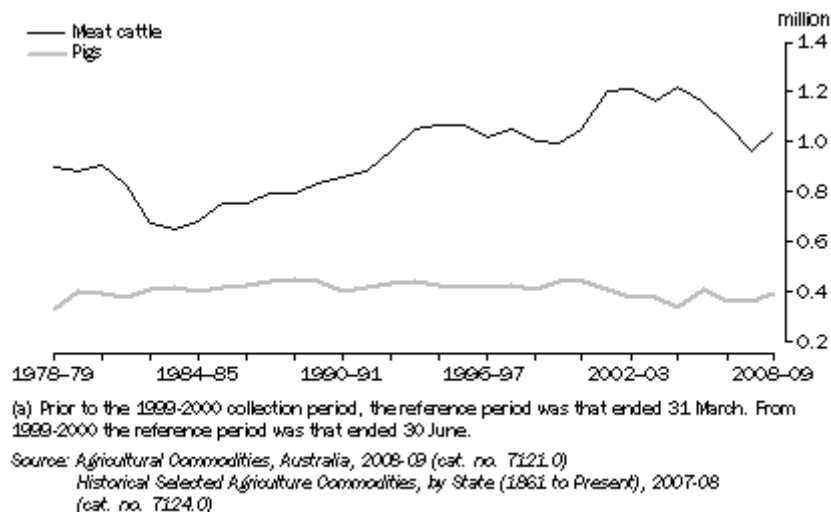


Cattle and Pigs

South Australia's beef herd is much smaller in number than sheep and accounts for a relatively small share of the national beef herd; 4.2% on average between 1979 and 2009. At the start of the period, there were approximately 900,000 head of meat cattle in the state and, primarily due to the intense drought of 1982-83, this number had dropped to 650,700 by 1984. By 2005, despite a reduction in the available grazing area, the herd had increased by 88% and numbered 1,223,400 head. Drier weather conditions and Queensland looking to source quality breeding cows from other states to rebuild their own herd (PIRSA 2005) contributed to herd numbers in South Australia falling back to approximately one million head in 2009.

Pig numbers in South Australia have remained relatively stable throughout the analysis period. As pigs are generally grown in sheds, pig farming is somewhat less susceptible to drought. Even though numbers are small, the state's herd accounted for 15.7% of Australia's pig herd, on average, between 1979 and 2009.

LIVESTOCK NUMBERS(a), SA: Original



Slaughtering

Slaughter rates are influenced by a number of factors including drought, demand for breeding stock, feed prices, sale yard prices and production demand. In times of drought, when the availability of good pasture and water is low, farmers are often forced to choose between paying the higher price for feed or slaughtering stock in order to get some return.

A rise in the number of sheep, lambs and cattle slaughtered around the time of the 1982-83 drought is evident in the graph below. The decline in livestock slaughtering in the period(s) immediately after this drought (particularly evident for sheep) could be reflective of farmers looking to rebuild their herds.

The number of lambs slaughtered per quarter has increased markedly over the last decade rising from 528,100 in the March quarter of 1999 to 997,600 in the June quarter 2009; an increase of 88.9%. This number has fallen for the last four quarters to be 926,100 in June 2010. At the same time the number of (older) sheep slaughtered has fallen from 483,900 in March 1999 to 209,300 in June 2010; a decrease of 56.7%. These movements could be reflective of poorer wool prices, rising prices for lamb and a change in the composition of the overall sheep flock.

As mentioned in the previous section, pig farming is not as vulnerable in times of drought as other livestock commodities. Possible factors behind the increase in the number of pigs being slaughtered since the December quarter 1997 could include better prices, increased demand for pig meat and more efficient production practices.

LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER NUMBERS, SA - Quarterly: Trend



MEAT PRODUCTION TRENDS

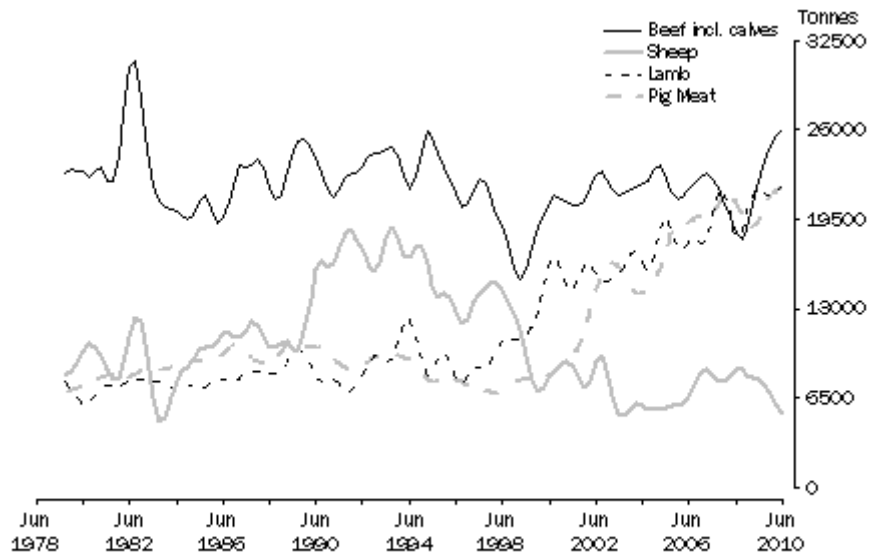
Between the September quarters of 1979 and 2007, South Australia produced more tonnes of beef (including calves) than any other type of meat; an average of 22,200 tonnes per quarter. However, in the periods following the drought of 2006-07, beef production fell with all estimates in 2008 below 20,000 tonnes, the lowest of which occurred in the September quarter (18,000 tonnes). The level of beef production recorded in the March quarter of 1999 (15,100 tonnes) was the lowest in the analysis period.

The contribution of lamb and pig meat to total red meat production began to increase in the mid 1990s. By the December quarter 2007, the volume of lamb and pig meat produced had more than doubled from 8,538 tonnes and 7,677 tonnes in June quarter 1995 to 21,700 tonnes and 21,400 tonnes respectively and as a result, lamb and pig meat production exceeded beef production (21,000 tonnes) for the first time. Lamb and pig meat also recorded falls throughout 2008 but production levels remained above beef for most of the year.

The production trends for sheep, lamb and pig meat follow similar patterns to those depicted in the previous section discussing slaughtering. By contrast, beef production has been quite variable when compared to relatively stable rates of slaughter. This may indicate a high number of cattle leave the state to be slaughtered elsewhere or, as cattle are generally larger animals than the other livestock, there is more variability in the weight of the carcass.

In the June quarter 2010, South Australia produced 4.9% of Australia's beef (incl. calves), 21.3% of Australia's lamb (excl. sheep) and 26.1% of Australia's pig meat.

MEAT PRODUCTION, SA - QUARTERLY: TREND



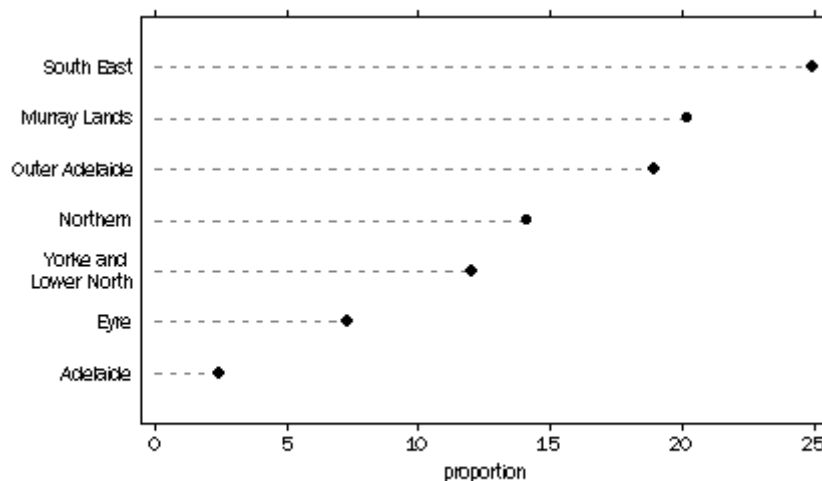
Source: Livestock Products, Australia, Jun 2010 (cat no. 7215.0)

VALUE OF PRODUCTION BY STATISTICAL DIVISION

There is more than one way to measure the contribution meat production makes to the South Australian economy. For the purposes of this analysis the direct measurement available, gross value of agricultural production, will be used. The estimate is determined by the value placed on recorded production at the wholesale prices realised in the market place (ABS cat 7503.0). For the year ending 30 June 2009, the gross value of agricultural production in South Australia was \$4,407.5m. Total meat production, or 'Livestock slaughterings and other disposals' (comprised of the value of livestock slaughtered plus the value of net exports) contributed 23.1% of this total (\$1,018.2m)

"The economic importance of the (red) meat industry is more significant at the regional level where farming, particularly livestock production, comprises a large proportion of total economic activity." (ABARE 2009b) Meat production is undertaken in every statistical division (SD) in the state albeit to varying degrees. The South East SD accounted for a quarter (25%) of the value of all meat production in the state in 2008-09 whilst the Adelaide SD only contributed 2.4%.

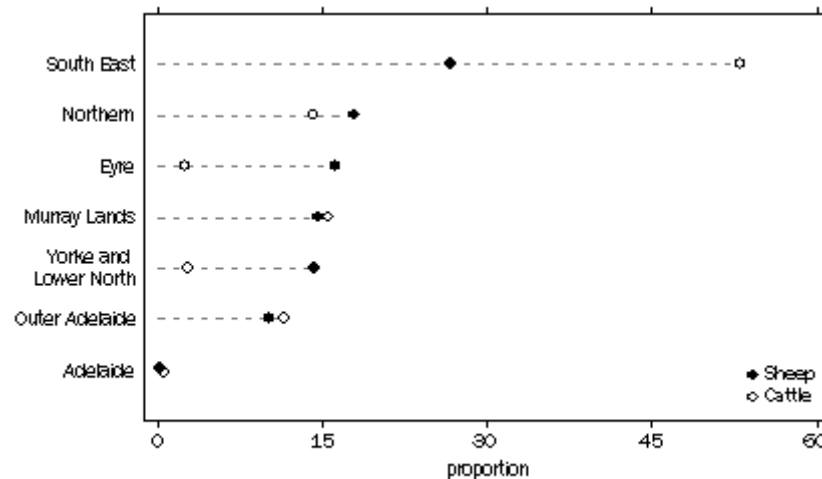
VALUE OF LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTERINGS AND OTHER DISPOSALS, SA - Statistical Division



Source: Value of Agricultural Commodities Produced, Australia, 2008-09 (cat. no. 7503.0)

At the commodity level the South East SD dominates both cattle and sheep production accounting for 53.1% and 26.7% of the respective commodity values. Other SDs, such as Eyre are generating value in one main commodity (in this case, sheep) with almost no contribution to the other.

VALUE OF LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTERINGS AND OTHER DISPOSALS, Sheep and Cattle, SA - Statistical Division



Source: Value of Agricultural Commodities Produced, Australia, 2008-09 (cat. no. 7503.0)

South Australia's Pig industry produces more than a quarter of Australia's pig meat (26.1%) but an estimate of the value of pig slaughterings is not available separately. However, based on the distribution of the state's pig herd and the location of processing plants at Murray Bridge and Port Wakefield, it would be expected that most of the production would occur in the Murray Lands (37.2% of all pigs), Outer Adelaide (28.5% of all pigs) and Yorke and Lower North (24.7% of all pigs) statistical divisions.

SUMMARY

Accounting for almost a quarter (23.1%) of the total gross value of South Australia's agricultural production in 2008-09, red meat production makes an important contribution to the state's economy. Cattle, sheep and pigs are the main livestock grown in the state and the industry specific strategic direction plans developed for each commodity contain targets to facilitate future growth.

Livestock holdings can be influenced by a number of factors. Multiple periods of drought as well as a reduction in the value of, and demand for, high quality wool resulted in the number of sheep in the South Australian flock falling to its lowest level since 1950. Once valued for their fleece, more lambs are now being slaughtered for their meat.

Historically beef has accounted for the largest share (in volume terms) of meat produced in South Australia, averaging 22,200 tonnes per quarter between 1979 and 2007. However, since the mid 1990s the amount of lamb and pig meat being produced has been increasing thereby changing the composition of total red meat production in the state.

Demonstrating an ability to recover from drought, beef production began rising again from the December quarter 2008 and has been accounting for the largest share of red meat production since mid 2009.

In the June quarter 2010, South Australia produced 4.9% of Australia's beef (incl. calves), 21.3% of Australia's lamb (excl. sheep) and 26.1% of Australia's pig meat.

Livestock production makes up a large proportion of the economic activity undertaken in regional South Australia. Meat production is undertaken in every statistical division (SD) in the state albeit to varying degrees. The South East SD accounted for a quarter (25%) of the value of all meat production in the state in 2008-09 whilst the Adelaide SD only contributed 2.4%.

At the commodity level the South East SD dominates both cattle and sheep production accounting for 53.1% and 26.7% of the respective commodity values. The Statistical Divisions of Murray Lands, Outer Adelaide and Yorke and Lower North hold 90% of the state's pig herd and would therefore account for most of the value in this commodity.

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